1

0 000 224 718 5

Conservation Resources
Lig-Free® Type I
Ph 8.5, Buffered

SB 1
.N47
1824
Copy 1

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

NEW-YORK STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

1824

N47
1824

ADVERTISEMENT.

The establishment of a Garden, for the purpose of Horticultural improvement and the advancement of Botanical science, has for a number of years been a subject of consideration with intelligent men in the city of New-York and throughout the state.

The failure of distinguished individual exertion has shown the necessity of combined effort; and the spirit of the times and the proffered patronage of wealth and talent, have indicated this era as an appropriate one for the formation of a Society on a scale commensurate with the importance of the State and the magnitude and consequence of its Metropolis.

In Europe, similar establishments confer honours not only on the cities with which they are immediately connected, but on the countries to which they belong. The Royal Garden of Plants in Paris is the pride and boast of France—the Garden at Amsterdam, of Holland—the Botanic and Horticultural Gardens of Dublin, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Liverpool, and London, excite the same feelings

in the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. New-York (both City and State) has a right to be emulous of equal usefulness and ambitious of equal fame. A Society has consequently been formed, and the subjoined explanation of its objects, with the copy of its constitution, will convey the requisite information to its friends and patrons.

The primary object of this Society will be to establish a Garden of from ten to twenty acres in the vicinity of the city, for the express purpose of Horticultural improvement, and, as far as practicable, the general advancement of Botanical science.

The propagation of fruit trees will especially engage the attention of the Society. Every variety and species of these will be collected and cultivated, and every necessary information concerning them will be carefully preserved and distributed gratuitously for the public good. A remedy may, in this way, be found for the evil so much and so justly complained of, that fruit trees do not always correspond to the names ascribed to them. The best mode of cultivating the various fruits adapted to our climate, and the remedies for the diseases to which they are subject, will also be ascertained from actual experiments.

The encouragement that such a Society could give to market gardeners, and others, to excel in

136183

the cultivation of esculent vegetables; in raising early crops and genuine garden seeds, would tend to general improvement, and soon have a salutary effect on our markets; and doubtless, in the Society's garden, every species of vegetable would be found improved, by a careful and experimental cultivation.

As such a garden should combine pleasure with its other advantages, it will have a large portion appropriated to ornamental flowers, and also a particular section set apart for a distinct *Flora* of the United States; and thus embracing every advantage which the Florist and Botanist can desire, it will become one of the most interesting and beautiful ornaments to our city.

Our Students of Medicine will receive important advantages from this institution. The celebrated Schools of Medicine in Europe have their Botanic Gardens, in which are cultivated all the varieties of plants used in the healing art. The Medical College in this city, so rapidly advancing to distinction, is deficient in an institution of this kind; but to this Garden our Students might have access, where they could study the various medicinal plants in a living state. It is also contemplated to erect suitable buildings for Lecture Rooms, and a Botanical Library and Cabinet, and ultimately to establish a Professorship of Botany and Horticulture.

This Society will extend its patronage to scientific and practical Gardeners who may arrive in this country from foreign parts, particularly those who shall bring satisfactory recommendations from the officers of similar societies from whence they come.

Young men of the state who would wish to enter the Garden as Apprentices, at a moderate salary, would receive instruction in every branch of Horticulture; and those suitably educated, would also receive Botanical instruction.

New-York, May 1824.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

This society shall be known by the name of "The New-York State Horticultural Society:" the object of which shall be the improvement of Horticulture in all its branches, and also the extension of the knowledge of indigenous and foreign plants, especially such as are useful or ornamental. Name and object of the society.

ARTICLE II.

The society shall consist of three classes of members, to wit, resident, non-resident, and honorary. Resident members, are such as reside in the city of New-York or its immediate vicinity; non-resident members, such as reside elsewhere in the state; and honorary members, such as shall have rendered essential service to the society, or are distinguished for their attainments in Horticulture or its kindred sciences, and without reference to their places of residence. Members.

ARTICLE III.

Candidates for admission, as ordinary members, shall be proposed in writing by at least two mem- Ordinary members, how elected.

bers, at a stated meeting of the society, and shall be ballotted for by the members at the next ensuing stated meeting, the votes of three-fourths of the members then present being requisite for the election of such proposed member.

Honorary members how admitted.

The admission of honorary members shall be proposed only by the council, and they may be elected at the same meeting at which they are proposed, three-fourths of the members then present voting therefor.

ARTICLE IV.

Payments by members.

Each member, other than honorary, shall pay annually, on the 1st day of May, the sum of three dollars, for the use of the society. Every member, other than honorary, elected after the last Thursday in May, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-four, shall also pay an initiation fee of three dollars.

Commutation.

Any member, not in arrear, may commute for his annual contribution, by the payment, at one time, of twenty-five dollars.

Exemption.

Any member who shall be an original subscriber for four or more shares of the stock of the Society, shall be exempt from the payment of any annual contribution so long as he he shall continue to hold the same.

Commutation-moneys, &c. to form part of the capital.

All initiation fees, all moneys received from members as a commutation for the annual contribution, and all donations, shall form part of the capital of the Society.

ARTICLE V.

Honorary members shall be exempted from the payment of all fees and contributions; and shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the society, nor be eligible to any office therein. Honorary members exempt from fees.

ARTICLE VI.

No member, whose annual contribution shall be in arrear for more than one year shall be eligible to any office in the society, or entitled to vote at any meeting of the society. Arrearages.

Any member, whose annual contribution shall be in arrear for more than two years, and who shall have been requested, in writing, by the Treasurer to pay such arrearages, may be ejected from the society, such ejection being proposed at one stated meeting, and ballotted for at the next ensuing stated meeting of the society, three-fourths of the members present, at each of such meetings, concurring therein. Any member, for other sufficient cause, may be in like manner ejected. Ejection of members.

ARTICLE VII.

The officers of the society shall consist of a President, three Vice Presidents, two Corresponding and two Recording Secretaries, and a Treasurer, to be chosen annually, by and from among the members, by ballot; and also of a Council, to consist of *thirty* resident and *twenty* non-resident members, to be also chosen by and from among the members by ballot. Officers. how chosen.

The resident Counsellors thereof, shall be divided by the Council, by lot, into five classes, the Resident counsellors divided into classes, &c.

members of one of which classes shall go out of office at the expiration of each successive year, but shall be re-eligible. The non-resident Counsellors to be annually elected.

Non-resident elected annually

Additional vote on stock.

At all elections for Officers of the Society, each member shall be entitled to one additional vote for each share of the stock of the Society which he shall then hold, and may vote by proxy *upon his stock.*

ARTICLE VIII.

Officers ex-officio members of council.

The President, Vice President, Secretaries, and Treasurer, shall be ex-officio members of the Council.

ARTICLE IX.

President, and Vice Presidents.

The President, and, in his absence, the senior Vice President present, shall preside at the several meetings of the society. In case of the absence of the President and of all the Vice Presidents, a member of the Council, and in default of such being present, any member of the society may be called to preside at such meeting, by the vote of a majority of the members present.

ARTICLE X.

Corresponding Secretaries.

It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretaries to conduct the correspondence of the society, and to read, at the meetings of the society and of the council, all communications made to them in their official capacity.

ARTICLE XI.

Recording Secretaries.

The Recording Secretaries shall keep the minutes of all business transacted at the meetings of

the society and of the council; take charge of the records and papers of the society; give notice of extra meetings; notify to members their election, and perform such other duties as shall be assigned to them by the council, or as may be designated by the by-laws.

ARTICLE XII.

The Treasurer shall take charge of the funds of the society; receive the dues from the members; report to the society, at the anniversary meetings, the receipts and expenditures for the past year, his accounts having been previously audited by a committee of finance; and pay all orders and accounts signed by the President, or one of the Vice Presidents, and approved and countersigned by such committee of finance, or a majority thereof, or in such other manner as shall be directed by the by-laws. It shall also be the duty of the Treasurer to report quarterly to the council, and to the society so often as shall be required, the state of the finances of the society. Treasurer.

ARTICLE XIII.

The council shall have power, from time to time, to make and establish such by-laws, rules, and regulations, not repugnant to this constitution, as shall be deemed useful and necessary for the government and regulation of the society, and touching and concerning the subscription to, transfer of, and payment of dividends upon its stock; the care, investment, and management of its funds, property, and effects; the care and management of the garden, the disposal of the pro- Council, by-laws, &c.

ducts thereof, and the admission of members and others therein; the awarding of premiums, the publication of the proceedings of the society, and of papers laid before it; the admission of, or connexion with Auxiliary Societies, and the privileges to be granted them; and the general conduct and management of the business and affairs of the society, as it shall deem needful and proper; such by-laws, rules, and regulations subject however to be altered, modified, or repealed by the society at its stated meetings, three-fourths of the members present at any such meeting concurring in such alteration, modification, or repeal, and the same being confirmed by the votes of three-fourths of the members present at the next ensuing stated meeting.

Vacancies.

The Council shall also have power to fill any vacancy that may occur therein, until the next anniversary meeting; and to appoint a committee of finance, and such other committees from its own body, and such subordinate officers, agents, attendants and servants, with such perquisites or salaries as shall be deemed meet, as may be necessary for the purposes aforesaid.

Committees.

Subordinate officers, &c.

Minutes of the council.

At the several stated meetings of the society, the minutes of the proceedings of the council, since the preceding stated meeting, shall be read.

ARTICLE XIV.

Meeting of the society.

The stated meetings of the society shall be held on the last Thursday evening in every month, at such place in the city of New-York as shall be designated by the council.

The meeting on the last Thursday in September shall be the anniversary, at which time the annual election for officers shall take place. Extra meetings of the society may be called by the President, or, in his absence, by the senior Vice President present, at the request, in writing, of five or more members. Anniversary. Extra meetings.

Eight members at any stated meeting, and twelve members at any extra meeting, shall be necessary to form a quorum for the transacting of business. Quorum.

Meetings shall also be held on the several Thursday evenings, other than the last Thursday evenings, in the months of July, August, September, and October, in each year, for the special purpose of receiving and inspecting articles presented for exhibition or premiums. Special meetings.

ARTICLE XV.

Every member, other than honorary members, present at any meeting of the society, shall be entitled to vote at any election for officers or members, then pending, and upon all questions presented for consideration. Of Voting

ARTICLE XVI.

The council shall meet at such stated times, and at such place in the city of New-York, as it may deem expedient. Five members shall be necessary to form a quorum for the despatch of business. Meetings of the council. Quorum.

The President, or, in his absence, the senior Vice President present, and in the absence of the President and all the Vice Presidents, one of the members to be designated for that purpose by a Presiding officer.

majority of those present, shall preside at every such meeting.

By-laws.

No by-law, or general rule or regulation, shall be adopted, unless proposed at one stated meeting and approved at the next stated meeting of the council thereafter, three-fourths of the members present at each of such meetings concurring therein, and the same shall not afterwards be altered, modified or repealed by the council, except in like manner.

Extra meetings

An extra meeting of the council may be called by the President, or either of the Vice Presidents, due notice being given to the resident members.

ARTICLE XVII.

Amendment of the constitution.

No alteration shall be made in this constitution, except proposed, in writing, by six or more members, and approved of by the society at two successive stated meetings, three-fourths of the members present, at each of the said meetings, concurring therein.

ARTICLE XVIII.

Stock.

Stock, to the amount of twenty thousand dollars, in transferable shares of twenty-five dollars each, shall be created; and the subscription therefor shall be paid by the Stockholders respectively, by such instalments and at such times as shall be required by the Council, under pain of forfeiture of their shares and all previous payments made thereon.

Certificates of stock shall be issued in such form, and authenticated in such manner, as the Council shall prescribe; and no transfer of such stock shall be valid or effectual unless the same shall be registered on the books of the Society to be kept for that purpose. Certificates. Transfer.

So much of the amount raised by such stock as may be deemed expedient, shall be appropriated to the purchase of a site for a Garden and the necessary improvement of the premises; the residue, if any, shall form part of the capital of the Society, and the interest thereof only shall be applied towards defraying the current expenses of the Society. Appropriation.

Every stockholder, though not a member of the Society, shall be entitled to the *personal* privilege of free admission into the Garden in like manner as a member. Privilege of stockholder not a member.

After the Garden shall be in operation, the residue of the annual income of the Society, arising from the interest of its capital, the annual contributions of members, from receipts for the admission of other than members and stockholders into the Garden, from any sales of products of the Garden, and from all other sources, after defraying the expenses of the Society, shall be annually divided among the stockholders, by way of interest upon the stock; such dividend in any one year not, however, to exceed eight per cent. Any surplus that may remain to be added to the capital of the Society. Dividends.

Real estate, &c. pledged for redemption of stock.

The real estate purchased with the proceeds of such stock, together with any part of such proceeds that may remain unexpended upon the Garden, is hereby declared to be inviolably pledged to the stockholders for the redemption of such stock.

OFFICERS FOR 1824.

Hon. STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER, *President*

PHILIP HONE,
JOHN TORREY, M. D. } *Vice Presidents.*

JOHN LOW, *Treasurer.*

JOHN GRISCOM,
ISAAC M. ELY, } *Corresponding Secretaries.*

LAMBERT SUYDAM,
CHARLES MOWATT, } *Recording Secretaries.*

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Resident.

G. B. ABEEL,
STEPHEN ALLEN,
JOHN ASPINWALL,
WM. BAYARD, Jun.
THOMAS BLOODGOOD,
JAMES BOGGS,
JAMES BOORMAN,
GEO. BRINCKERHOFF,
WM. G. BUCKNOR,
WILLIAM COOPER,
JAMES E. DEKAY, M. D.
JOHN DELAFIELD,
CHARLES H. HALL,
R. N. HARISON,
CORNELIUS HEYER,
ISAAC HEYER,
G. G. HOWLAND,
DAVID S. JONES,
J. G. HAVILAND,
Hon. WM. PAULDING. Jun.
FELIX PASCALIS, M. D.
NATHANIEL PRIME,
P. SCHERMERHORN, Jun.
WILLIAM SHAW,
HERMAN THORN,
WM. TORREY, Jun.
JER. VAN RENSSELAER, M.D.
SAMUEL WARD, Jun.
EZRA WEEKS,
GABRIEL WINTER.

Non-Resident.

Hon. JOHN ARMSTRONG,
JESSE BUEL,
JAMES DUANE,
G. W. FEATHERSTONHAUGH,
Col. GEORGE GIBBS,
JOHN HUNTER,
MYRON HOLLY,
JOHN A. KING,
Judge J. LENT,
R. L. LIVINGSTON,
M. LE RAY DE CHAUMONT
Judge L. LEFFERTS,
EDWARD H. PENDLETON.
WILLIAM PRINCE,
Chancellor N. SANFORD,
ABM. SCHERMERHORN,
PHILIP J. SCHUYLER,
Hon. AMBROSE SPENCER,
Gen. J. G. SWIFT,
Gen. M. D. WADSWORTH.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
0 000 224 718 5

0 00

Conservation Resources
Lig-Free® Type I

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
0 000 224 718 5